

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUNICH 00255

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, GE, XH
SUBJECT: FORMER SOVIET ACADEMICIAN COMMENTS ON BDKD
MANIFESTO

1. INTRO AND SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES VIEWS OF
SOVIET EXPATRIATE ACADEMICIAN MIKHAIL SERGEYEVICH
VOLENSKY ON MANIFESTO OF THE LEAGUE OF DEMOCRATIC
COMMUNISTS OF GERMANY (BDKD). AS FORMER GERMAN EXPERT
FOR MOSCOW'S INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMY AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS (MEMO), VOLENSKY MAY HAVE UNIQUE INSIGHT
INTO BDKD MANIFESTO. HE BELIEVES MANIFESTO IS GENUINE AND
REPRESENTS WORK OF YOUNG INTELLECTUALS. HE IS CONVINCED
THAT FRG TV AND OTHER MEDIA COVERAGE OF SPIEGEL ARTICLES
ON MANIFESTO ARE HAVING TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON GDR POPULA-
TION, LONG TERM IMPLICATIONS OF WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE
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TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY BY GDR REGIME. END SUMMARY.

2. VOLENSKY BELIEVES THE SO-CALLED MANIFESTO OF THE
BDKD IS GENUINE AND REPRESENTS THE WORK OF YOUNG
INTELLECTUALS, SOME OF WHOM ARE MEMBERS OF SED. INTERNAL
EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT MANIFESTO WAS AUTHORED BY PERSONNEL
FAMILIAR WITH MARXIST-LENINIST TERMINOLOGY AND CATEGORIES

OF THINKING, BUT NOT BY PROFESSIONAL SED APARATCHIKS.
HE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT THINK MANIFESTO REFLECTS EXISTENCE
OF AN OPPOSITION GROUP HIGH IN SED. HE IS ALSO CONVINCED
THAT MANIFESTO IS NOT THE HANDIWORK OF BND OR ANY OTHER
WESTERN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

3. VOSLENSKY SEES DIRECT LINE CONNECTING BAHRO'S CRITIQUE
OF GDR REGIME WITH AUTHORS OF MANIFESTO. HE SPECULATES
THAT THE PERSONAL EXAMPLE SET BY BAHRO MAY HAVE EMBOLDENED
AUTHORS TO PUBLICIZE THEIR VIEWS.

4. VOSLENSKY BELIEVES GERMAN TV AND OTHER MEDIA COVERAGE
OF SPIEGEL REPORT ON MANIFESTO IS HAVING TREMENDOUS
IMPACT ON GDR POPULACE. GDR GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO TAKE
LONG TERM IMPLICATIONS OF THIS POPULARIZATION OF THE
MANIFESTO VERY SERIOUSLY.

5. MANIFESTO ALSO POSES DILEMMA FOR SPD, IN VOSLENSKY'S
VIEW. THOSE LEFT WING ELEMENTS OF SPD WHO YEARN FOR
UNIFICATION OF GERMANY ON BASIS OF NEUTRALIZATION AND
"COMMON LEFTIST" PLATFORM MAY BE ATTRACTED TO IDEAS SET
FORTH IN MANIFESTO.

6. VOSLENSKY ALSO BELIEVES MANIFESTO UNDERLINES IMPACT
WHICH "EUROCOMMUNIST" IDEAS IS HAVING ON ALL THE USSR'S
ALLIES IN EASTERN EUROPE, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF
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BULGARIANS.

7. COMMENT. CONGEN REALIZES THAT VOSLENSKY MEETS WITH
OTHER US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM TIME TO TIME. WE ARE
REPORTING HIS VIEWS ON BDKD MANIFESTO BECAUSE WE BELIEVE
THEY MAY BE OF TOPICAL INTEREST. BETTS

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